

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Jean Oxley Public Service Center
935 2nd Street SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

MINUTES

Wednesday, February 27th, 2019

I. QUORUM DETERMINED:

The Linn County Board of Adjustment meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Les Beck. The meeting was held in the Jean Oxley Public Service Center, 935 2nd Street SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

PRESENT: Ron Hoover 12/31/22
Dave Machacek 12/31/22
Sabrina Grace 12/31/21
Rebecca Palmer 12/31/23

ABSENT: Pat Harstad, Vice Chair 12/31/19

STAFF: Les Beck, Director
Heidi Carmer, Assistant County Attorney
Mike Tertinger, Planner
Stephanie Lientz, Planner
Jessie Black, Recording Secretary

See attendance sheet for community sign in.

II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Machacek motioned to nominate Sabrina Grace as Chair and Ron Hoover for Vice Chair, Palmer second. All others present voting aye.

III. OLD BUSINESS

IV. NEW BUSINESS

JC19-0004 **Stephanie Lientz** **David & Ramona Martin , Owners** **Conditional Use - Cell Tower**
FTC Towers, Applicant

Lientz presented the staff report.

The applicant is requesting a Conditional Use Permit to construct a 195-foot self-supporting lattice broadcast/common carrier communications tower. The tower will service the FirstNet emergency responders network, to ensure public safety agencies have access to a dedicated network during times of natural disasters and emergencies. The proposal includes a lease agreement for approximately 10,000 square feet, or 0.23 acres. The lease area will include the tower and a future equipment shelter. The lease area will be surrounded by an 8-foot-high fence topped with barbed wire. A 16-foot wide access and utility easement will be used to provide access to the tower from Barrett Road. This new tower will expand carrier capacity, and will provide space for four additional carriers to co-locate.

This proposal meets the standards for approval per Article V, Section 107-94, § (k), Tower Regulations, of the Linn County Unified Development Code (UDC). The proposal appears to meet all the standards for approval per Article IV, Section 107-73, § (4) for Conditional Use Permits.

Staff recommends approval subject to the conditions of the staff report.

Palmer wondered if the tower is self-supporting. Lientz confirmed it is.

Machacek asked which emergency responders the proposed tower would serve. Lientz was unsure, suggesting he ask the applicant.

Palmer questioned the height of the tower, wondering if it would need to be lit. Lientz answered, stating that the tower would have to meet all FAA regulations, but suggested Palmer asked the applicant to confirm.

Nathan Ward, applicant (joining the meeting by phone), offered to answer any questions from the board. He mentioned that he had been working with Jon Gallagher, NRCS, on a storm water infiltration trench. He indicated he would submit updated drawings prior to obtaining a building permit.

Palmer asked Ward how tall the proposed tower was going to be; she wondered if it needed to be lit. Ward answered that FAA regulations require any structure greater than 200 feet to have either aviation painting or lights. Palmer also asked which first responders the tower would service. Ward said any certified emergency responder in the area.

Motion by Machacek to accept the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Decision & Order as reflected in the staff report for the Conditional Use Cell Tower JC19-0004 , and to approve case JC19-0004 , Second by Hoover .

Machacek	Aye	
Palmer		Aye
Hoover		Aye
Harstad	Absent	
Grace	Aye	

V. OTHER BUSINESS

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of February 6th, 2019 Board of Adjustment meeting were approved as submitted.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sabrina Grace, Chair

Jessie Black, Recording Secretary